



NEWS RELEASE



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

United States Department of Agriculture - Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service
100 Centennial Mall North Suite 298 - Lincoln, Nebraska 68508 - Phone: (402) 437-5541

Contact: Mark Harris (402) 437-5541

E-mail: nass-ne@nass.usda.gov

Web: www.usda.gov/nass/

NEBRASKA'S 2005 CORN AND SOYBEAN YIELDS BELOW YEAR AGO

LINCOLN, Neb., August 12, 2005 -- Based on August 1 conditions, Nebraska's **corn** crop is forecast at 1.26 billion bushels, 4 percent below last year but still the second highest of record, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Nebraska Field Office. Area to be harvested for grain at 8.1 million acres is up 2 percent from a year ago. Yield is forecast at 156 bushels per acre, 10 bushels below last year's record high while 10 bushels above 2003. "Based on objective field checks and farmer reports, dryland corn yields are sharply lower from last year's record highs, however, irrigated yield potential is excellent. These factors combined to limit the production decrease from last year," said Mark Harris, Director of the Nebraska Field Office.

Soybean production in Nebraska is forecast at 218 million bushels, 1 percent below last year and third highest on record behind 2001 and 2004. Area for harvest, at 4.95 million acres, are highest on record. Yield is forecast at 44 bushels per acre, down 2.5 bushels from 2004.

Nebraska's 2005 **winter wheat** crop is forecast at 66.3 million bushels, down 5 percent from last month's forecast but 9 percent above last year's crop. Area for grain, at 1.7 million acres, is unchanged from last month. Yield is forecast at 39 bushels per acre, down 2 bushels from last month but 2 bushels above last year. Harvest revealed the full impact of disease and spring freeze damage to the head grain weights, reducing yield from last month's forecast.

Sorghum yield is forecast at 77 bushels per acre, down 4 bushels from last year with production forecast at 20.8 million bushels. **Dry edible bean** production, at 3.55 million cwt., is up 49 percent from last year. **Oat** yield is forecast at a record high 75 bushels per acre with production forecast at 4.5 million bushels, up 20 percent from 2004. **Sugarbeet** production of 1.03 million tons is down 2 percent from last year. **Alfalfa hay** production is forecast at 4.32 million tons, down 3 percent from last year, while **all other hay** production is up 18 percent.

Access the National publication for this release at:
<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/nassr/field/pcp-bb/2005/crop0805.pdf>